

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #70-45 Building Date: 1907

Building Name: Eberle House

Location: 6135 Princess Garden Parkway, Lanham, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Eberle House is a two story four square house of rock-faced cement block, located on a large lot fronting on Princess Garden Parkway to its west. The two bay west (front) facade has entrance in the first bay through a door with a large glass light framed by wooden egg-and-dart molding. Windows on the facade are 1/1 with a cement lintel and sill. The one bay hipped roof entrance porch is supported by four tapered wood columns. The facade is surmounted by a centered shed roof dormer. The roof is hipped, with a boxed, overhanging cornice. There are interior brick chimneys on the north and south roof slopes. A band of cement blocks forms a string course above the poured cement foundation and between first and second levels. The two bay east (rear) facade has an enclosed one story porch and a bulkhead cellar entrance beneath the second bay. A dormer similar to that on the front facade is centered at attic level. The interior has a north entrance hall with two south parlors and a rear (east) kitchen. There is banded molding with corner-blocks surrounding the doors and windows. The fireplace in the southwest parlor has a high wood mantel with wood columns flanking the fire box opening and a mirror above the mantel shelf. There is a one-by-one bay, one story ice house in the front yard, of the same cement block as the house.

Significance

The Eberle house was built ca. 1907 on 2.6 acres in the new Princess Gardens Subdivision. The subdivision was platted in 1903 by E. Baker Evans, who had offices on Pennsylvania Avenue in the District of Columbia and sold lots in the subdivision during the first decade of the 20th century. Early residents were railroad workers and tradesmen from the U.S. Navy Yard. They had access to employment in Washington, D.C. via the trains which stopped at Lanham Station. Jacob J. Eberle, a painter in the Navy Yard, purchased lots 125 and 126 in 1907, and the house was probably built soon after. Members of the Eberle family still reside there. The rock faced cement block used for the house was made by Charles Serrin, a carpenter at the Navy Yard. Serrin was a resident of the Subdivision and built several of the houses in the area. He used an iron form to mold the cement block. The house is significant as an example of four-square house design, constructed of an unusual form of cement block. Princess Garden subdivision is an example of the suburban movement in the United States.

Acreage: 1.32 acres

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Eberle House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 6135 Princess Garden Parkway ___ not for publication

city, town Lanham ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture ___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial ___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment ___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government ___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial ___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	___ military ___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Anna M. Funk

street & number 6135 Princess Garden Parkway telephone no.:

city, town Lanham, state and zip code MD. 20706

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 4129

street & number Main Street folio 133

city, town Upper Marlboro, state MD.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state MD.

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. 70-45

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Eberle House is a two story four square house of rock-faced cement block construction. It is located on a large lot with mature trees, fronting on Princess Garden Parkway to its west.

The two bay west (front) facade has entrance in the first bay through a door with a large glass light framed by wooden egg-and-dart molding. Windows on the facade are 1/1 double-hung-sash with a cement lintel and sill. The entrance is sheltered by a one bay hipped roof entrance porch supported by four tapered wood columns, and having a banded frieze and overhanging cornice. The facade is surmounted by a centered small shed roof dormer containing a one light square window.

The roof is hipped, with a boxed, overhanging cornice. There are corbelled interior brick chimneys on the north and south roof slopes. A band of smooth cement blocks forms a string course above the poured cement foundation and between first and second levels.

The three bay north facade is irregularly fenestrated, with a square window with sidelights in the third bay lighting the interior stairwell. The two bay east (rear) facade has an enclosed one story porch with an entrance in the first bay. There is a bulkhead cellar entrance beneath the second bay. A dormer similar to that on the front facade is centered at attic level.

The two bay south facade has a one story rectangular frame projecting first bay with vertical board wainscot below 1/1 windows.

The interior of the Eberle house has a north side entrance hall with two south parlors and a rear (east) kitchen. There is banded molding with corner-blocks surrounding the doors and windows, and a picture rail and chair rail to protect the plaster walls. The fireplace in the southwest parlor has a high wood mantel with wood columns flanking the fire box opening and a mirror incorporated into the surround, above the mantel shelf.

There is a one-by-one bay, one story ice house in the front yard. It is of the same cement block as the house, with a hipped metal roof and a center, east side entrance. There are mature trees on the property, and a grove of bamboo northeast of the house.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. 70-45

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History

Specific dates 1907 Builder/Architect Charles Serrin

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Eberle house was built ca. 1907 on approximately 2.6 acres in the newly platted Princess Gardens Subdivision.¹ The subdivision was platted in 1903 by E. Baker Evans, who was listed as a farmer in the 1910 U.S. Census. Evans had offices on Pennsylvania Avenue in the District of Columbia and sold lots in the subdivision during the first decade of the twentieth century.² Early residents of the subdivision, centered along Princess Garden Parkway, were primarily railroad workers and tradesmen from the nearby U.S. Navy Yard.³ Residents had access to employment in Washington, D.C. via the trains which stopped at nearby Lanham Station.

Jacob J. Eberle, a painter in the Navy Yard, purchased lots 125 and 126 in 1907.⁴ The Eberle house was probably built soon after that date. Members of the Eberle family still reside there. The rock faced cement block construction material used for the house was made by Charles Serrin, a carpenter employed at the U.S. Navy Yard. Serrin was a resident of the Princess Gardens Subdivision and was responsible for building several of the houses in the area (see P.G. #70-46, 70-44). He used an iron form to mold the cement block into its rough, rock-faced appearance.⁵

The Eberle house is significant in several areas. It is an excellent example of four-square house design, constructed of an unusual form of cement block. The Princess Garden subdivision is an early example of the suburban movement in the United States. It was a neighborhood of skilled tradesworkers employed in Washington, D.C. and residing in railroad accessible suburbs. The Eberle house is an early house in the subdivision.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. 70-45

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.32 acresMap 44Lot 125Quadrangle name Lanham, Section A

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting NorthingB

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Zone Easting NorthingC

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation Commissiondate May 1986street & number c/o County Planning Div., Room 4010
14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drivetelephone 952-3520city or town Upper Marlboro,state MD. 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

#8 Continued

Notes

- 1 Land Records of Prince George's County, 39:216.
- 2 United States Census, 1910, Prince George's County, District 2, #479, and Plat A-98, June 5, 1903.
- 3 Ibid.
- 4 Ibid; and Land Records of Prince George's County, 39:216.
- 5 Conversation with Richard Paris, April 1986.

Chain of Title

Eberle House
P.G. #70-45

4129:133
30 Aug 1972
Deed

Melvin L. Bowles and Virginia R. Bowles to Anna M. Funk. For \$10.00 grantors convey Lot obtained from Anna M. Funk on June 1972. A part of Lot conveyed by Louis P. and Jennie A. Eberle to Emma W. Eberle and Anna M. Funk, 8/30/38 502:145. Said Emma died 5/18/61, Ad #13863. Lot 125 and part of 102, 12,546 square feet.

4129:137
30 Aug 72
Deed

Anna M. Funk to Melvin L. and Virginia L. Bowles. For \$10 grantor conveys that property obtained from Lois P. Eberle and Jennie A. Eberle, 30 Aug 1938, 502:145.

502:145
30 Aug 1938
Deed

Louis P. and Jennie A. Eberle of Lanham to Emma W. Eberle and Anna M. Funk. For \$10.00 grantors convey Lot 125 and part of lot 102 in Princess Gardens subdivision. Lot #125 contains 1.376 acres, and Lot #102 contains 19,395 square feet.

502:143
30 Aug 1938
Deed

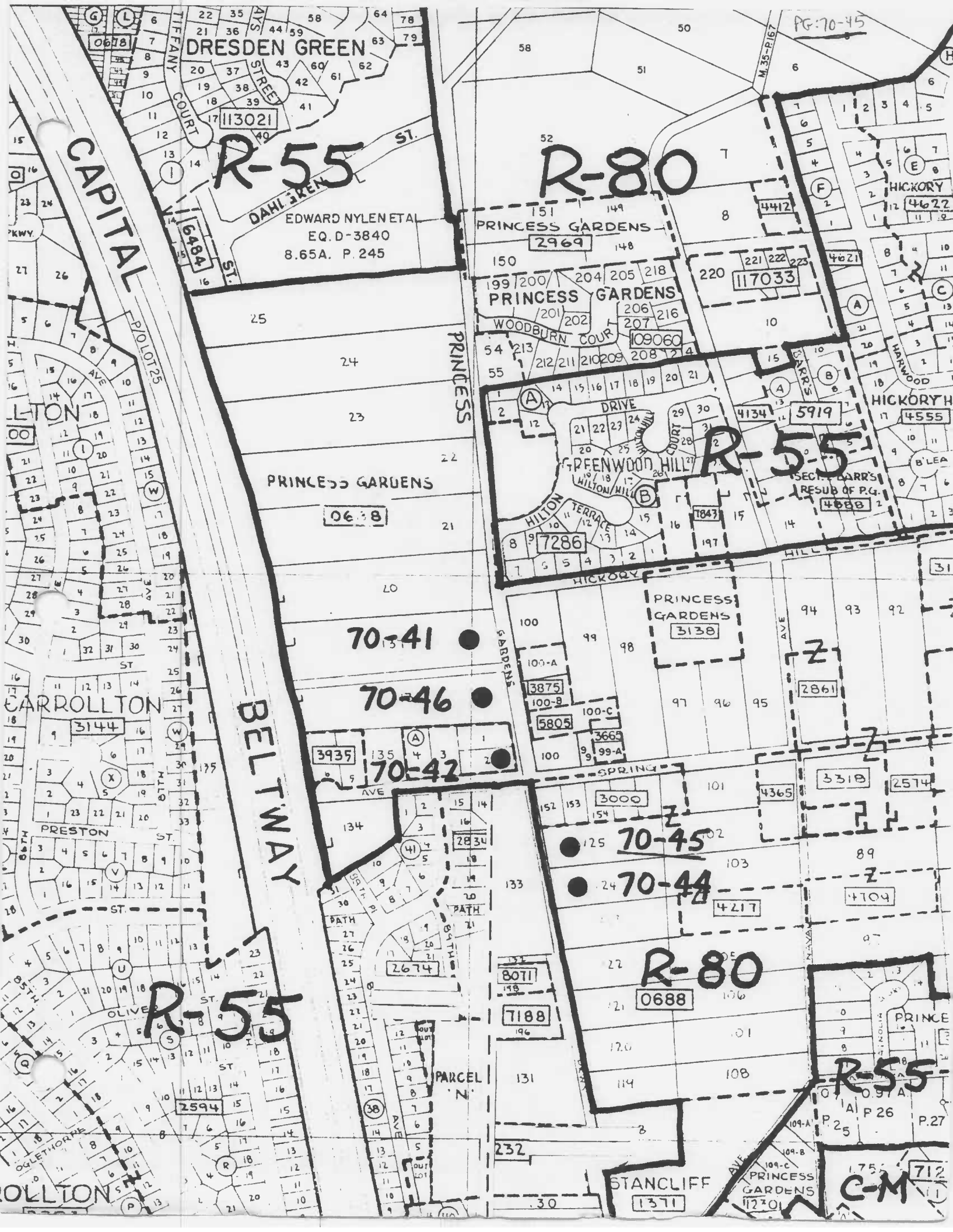
Emma W. Eberle and Anna M. and Raynor Funk to Louis P. Eberle and Jennie A. Eberle. For \$5.00 grantors convey Lot 126 and a part of Lot #101 contains 1.647 acres.

91:423
9 Nov 1914
Deed

E. Baker Evans to Jacob J. Eberle. For \$10.00 grantor conveys lots 101 and 102 together with improvements.

39:216
25 Mar 1907
Deed

E. Baker Evans and Jacob J. Eberle. For \$10.00 grantor convey part of land obtained from Avarilla Lambert and Martina Carr by deed of 18 May 1903, recorded 14:108 (or 74:708) Lots 125 and 126 together with improvements.



DRESDEN GREEN

R-55

EDWARD NYLEN ET AL
EQ.D-3840
8.65A. P.245

R-80

PRINCESS GARDENS

2969

PRINCESS GARDENS

117033

WOODBURN COURT

109060

GREENWOOD HILL

R-55

SECT. 14.4'S
RESUB OF P.G.

4888

PRINCESS GARDENS

0638

70-41

70-46

70-42

70-45

70-44

R-80

0688

R-55

R-55

C-M

STANCLIFF

1371

PRINCESS GARDENS

755

712

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P.G.#70-45

Eberle House
Prince George's County, Md.
Marina King
February 1986
West
Neg. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G.#70-45

Eberle House
Prince George's County, Md.
Marina King
February 1986
North
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G.#70-45

Eberle House
Prince George's County, Md.
Marina King
February 1986
East
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G.#70-45

Eberle House
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
February 1986
Outbuilding, west
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD